



Buyamba News

Helping Uganda...one child at a time



Making A Difference

A Sponsor's Story of a Library Project for GCS



In September 2020 (in the middle of the pandemic), I started collecting books for the kids at God Cares schools. I mentioned this project to a few friends who posted it on their Facebook pages or Nextdoor. I called a few public schools and inquired about any books they might be discarding. Since we were in a pandemic, many of these schools had just sorted their libraries and were unsure where to donate their used books. They were thrilled to have me pick them up for kids in Uganda.

Boxes of books arrived almost daily on my front porch! I sorted and mended these books (with the help of some faithful friends), separating them by primary school (nursery through 7th grade) and high school. Soon this project outgrew the space I had in my garage and a spare bedroom closet! What was God doing?? I needed more space for these books!

My church in Santa Barbara, CA, allowed me to move this project to a children's Sunday school classroom—thanks to the pandemic, this room wasn't being used. Friends came weekly to help me sort and box these books, as most had nothing else on their calendar due to the pandemic!

My friend, Jeanne, who sends books to missionary families worldwide, had no information on how to send books to Africa, but I believed that God would bring me that information. I contacted several shipping companies, but they didn't ship to Uganda. The best I could find would be to get them to Kenya, and the staff at God Cares would need to get them—a nine-hour round trip complicated by crossing the border. (Continued on page 2)



Sheri Marcantonio, Lisa Engstrom, Lisa Call

Send a Note of

Encouragement

It's that time of year again! This July Letter Project is an excellent opportunity for you and your family to encourage a child at God Cares School by writing a letter to your sponsored child(ren) or even a random child you don't know who might need a word of encouragement.

We have enclosed a special card that we use each year that our students recognize. You are welcome to use this card or send in your own card or letter. There is so much happening in Uganda; this is a good time to try and reach out to your students. Coming back to school has not been easy for many of these children who had a long time in lockdown. They could use our encouragement to press on and focus on school and that God cares about them, and so do you! (Continued on page 2)

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A few months later, Jeanne mentioned that she had heard about a woman in Texas who ships books to Uganda. All she had was her name and that she lived in Austin. I found this woman on Facebook, and she told me she had started 39 free libraries at schools in Uganda over the past 15 years! She used a great shipping company by the name of Missionary Expeditors. I called Missionary Expeditors; they would pick up in Santa Barbara, deliver right to God Cares Schools, and charged thousands of dollars less than the other shipping companies I had found. Did I mention that two friends offered to pay the shipping charges to get these books to the kids in Uganda!?? Game on!

I came to God with a minimal offering, and he has multiplied it beyond my wildest dreams.

My initial dream was to fill five boxes with inspiring books for the kids in Uganda. As books rolled in, we boxed up 105 shipping boxes FULL of books for the kids in Uganda. **Over two tons of books are on their way to God Cares School in Uganda!** The great majority of these books were donated by people all across my city. Many were people I had never met. I can't wait to see how these books will bless the kids at God Cares Schools. The shipment included hundreds of bibles. This whole project has been a "loaves and fishes" story. I came to God with a minimal offering, and he has multiplied it beyond my wildest dreams. I wonder what He will do with your offering?

-By Lisa Call



7,100 books are on their way to God Cares School in Uganda!



Send a Note of Encouragement

Please send your correspondence - this July card and or your additional letter and or photo to our **Buyamba office by July 4th**, and we will include it in our July package to Uganda to bless our students. Remember to please fill out your first and last name (unless you have written it to a nonspecific child) and your child's first and last name on the front so we can quickly get each letter to them. Even if your child is still waiting to get back into God Cares School due to the lockdown, we will still try to get those children in their village.



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